

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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)	Examiner:	Leroux, Etienne Pierre
)	Art Unit:	2171
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Mail Stop Amendments

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE ACCOMPANING RCE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on March 31, 2004, Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration of the above captioned patent application in view of the arguments set forth below.

Serial No: 09/940,321 Examiner: Leroux, Etienne Pierre Art Unit: 2171 PALM-3689.PSI